

whether we like it or not, we have the planet in common and to protect it, we must act together.

I urge everyone, and especially young people, not only from Haiti or the Dominican Republic, but from all over the world, to fight for a better future with the foundation of a state mutual aid that prioritizes human well-being. Let us act together to allow the plan of the Schiller Institute for Haiti to be known by as many people as possible in order to boost the key players to engage in the resolution of this plan. We are all neigh-

bors, making the planet our center of unity, because it is a gift we have in common, and we must preserve and protect everything. We also have a duty to keep it in good shape for future generations, because we are only temporary occupants.

To you, my dear Dominican and Haitian brothers:

It is time to become aware of our common destiny, and to ring the bell of unity and solidarity, in order to be able to think about the progress of the island of Hispaniola.

Thank you.

Eric Walcott

Haiti and Afghanistan: Needed Lessons for Nation-Building, Not Chaos

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Eric Walcott

Schiller Institute

Well, the state of Haiti, as it currently exists at this time: We are slowly descending into a state of total chaos. It has not gotten the support of the Organization of American States; it has not gotten the support of the United Nations; it has not gotten the support of CARICOM [Caribbean Community]. So therefore, you have a chaos in Haiti taking place, where you have petty gangs who are now stifling not only the economy, commerce. You have fuel lines, or fuel transport lines that have been somewhat hijacked by petty gangs led by G9 [confederation of nine gangs in Haiti—ed.]. You also have water that has now actually been stopped from getting from point A to point B. Most people who know Haiti, they know that these water trucks go around the country and deliver water so that people can have potable water to drink, to wash clothes, and other things.

Earlier today, I had conversations with someone very close to the Prime Minister, and the message that was said was, "Enough with the promises. We need

help, and we need help right now." We need 300-400 U.S. military or international forces, whether it be from the United Nations, CARICOM or elsewhere, to come to Haiti, to help to restore law and order in the country. This cannot be done with the small police force in Haiti. It cannot be done. You have police who are facing all types of assault weapons, who have no type of protective gear whatsoever.

So, at this point, the message is, Haiti has answered the call from the inception of the U.S. War of Independence, and so forth—many friends throughout Latin America and the Caribbean, as far as Colombia, Venezuela, even the Dominican Republic.

So, we cannot continue to have Haiti descending into chaos for whatever reason. We, who are part of the larger community of member states who respect law and order, the rule of law, [cannot] allow Haiti to continue to descend into chaos. Certainly not after a major tragedy with the assassination of the President. The people are terrorized by the assassination of the President, and they're now being further terrorized, if you would, by these gangs who are actually killing individuals every day; kidnapping individuals, and overwhelming the small police force of Haiti.

So, Haiti needs your help. I hope that the individuals around the world will hear this message.